

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8-64 and 73-75 are pending in the application. Claims 65-72 stand withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-6, 8-64 and 73-75 were rejected. Claims 3-6, 9-12, 27, 35-39, 41-43 and 54 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and were otherwise found to be allowable by the Examiner. Claims 1, 14, 33, 39 and 61 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Response to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-6, 8-64 and 73-75 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner alleged that claims 1, 14, 33 and 39 were indefinite because of Applicants' use of the term "adapted." As suggested by the Examiner, claims 1, 14, 33 and 39 have been amended to delete the term "adapted."

Claims 61-64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being "unclear whether or not claims 61-64 incorporate all the limitations of claims 1 (or alternatively claim 33.)" Claim 61 has been amended to more clearly recite that claim 61 incorporates all the limitations of the urethral suppository of either claim 1 or claim 33.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 be withdrawn.

Response to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2, 8, 15, 18-21, 23, 32-34, 40, 45-48, 50, 58 and 61-64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,460,360 to Finegold (hereinafter "Finegold"). Claim 1 includes a feature neither disclosed nor suggested by Finegold, namely,

a meltable portion formed around at least a portion of said length of said reinforcement, said meltable portion having a diameter which tapers toward said first end, said meltable portion adapted for insertion into said urethra. [emphasis added].

Although Finegold may describe a urethral suppository, it does not describe a suppository having a meltable portion formed around a reinforcement; nor does it describe a suppository having a taper from a second end toward a first end.

The Examiner refers to the obstructor 66 in Figure 4 of Finegold as a non-meltable reinforcement. The Examiner refers to the suppository 62 as a meltable portion. Finegold neither discloses nor suggests a meltable portion disposed around a non-meltable portion. Specifically, Finegold describes that the suppository 62 is attached to one of the flat surfaces, as shown in Fig. 4, surface 68 of the obstructor 66 (see column 4, lines 4-5). Being attached to a flat surface is different from the claimed feature of the meltable portion being formed around a reinforcement.

In accordance with the dictionary definition of the word "around," the term as used in claim 1 means that the meltable portion surrounds at least a portion of the reinforcement. (See enclosed pages of definition of word "around" from Random House College Dictionary). There is no portion of the obstructor 66 that is surrounded by the suppository 62.

In addition, the suppository 62 of Finegold is not tapered according to the feature of claim 1. The Examiner suggests that the distal end 65 of the suppository 62 of Finegold is tapered. The specification describes the tip 65 of the suppository as being "rounded." (see column 3, lines 62-65). This is different from the claimed feature of a meltable portion that tapers because the rounded tip of Finegold tapers in a direction opposite the claimed taper of the meltable portion.

The rounded tip of Finegold tapers in a direction toward the end of the tip 65 and away from the base member 72. In contrast, the meltable portion of claim 1 tapers toward the first end (e.g., tapers in a direction toward the base member).

Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated by Finegold, since Finegold neither discloses nor suggests a meltable portion around at least a portion of a reinforcement and neither discloses nor suggests a meltable portion tapered toward a first end of a reinforcement. In addition, claim 1 is not obvious in view of Finegold because Finegold teaches away from the features of the claimed suppository.

Finegold teaches away from a suppository having a meltable portion formed around the obstructor 66 which was alleged by the Examiner to be a non-meltable reinforcement.

The obstructor 66 is sized to prevent its insertion into the urethra (see column 4, lines 25-47 and Fig. 5). The purpose of the instrument of Finegold is to anesthetize the urethra (see abstract). If a meltable portion is formed around the obstructor 66, the meltable portion would not serve the function of medicating the urethra because the meltable portion on the obstructor would be too large to enter the urethra . In addition, the tapers of the claimed and prior art devices are in opposite directions because the devices serve different functions. The rounded tip 65 of Finegold presumably facilitates insertion of the suppository 62 into the urethra. The tapered meltable portion of claim 1 helps retain the claimed suppository *within* the urethra.

Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated by and not obvious in view of Finegold at least because Finegold neither discloses nor suggests a meltable portion around at least a portion of a reinforcement and neither discloses nor suggests a meltable portion tapered toward a first end of a reinforcement.

Claim 33 similarly includes the same features of claim 1 directed to a meltable portion formed around a reinforcement and a taper toward a first end of a reinforcement. Accordingly, claim 33 is novel over Finegold at least for the same reasons explained above with regard to claim 1.

Claims 2, 8, 15, 18-21, 23, and 32 depend from claim 1, claims 34, 40, 45-48, 50 and 58 depend from claim 33, and claims 61-64 all include the features of a meltable portion formed around the reinforcement and a taper toward the first end of the reinforcement as described above with regard to claim 1. Accordingly, claims 2, 8, 15, 18-21, 23, 32, 34, 40, 45-48, 50, 58 and 61-64 are not anticipated by Finegold at least for the same reasons as discussed above with regard to the patentability of claim 1.

Response to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 16, 17, 24, 25, 30, 31, 51, 52, 57, 59, 60 and 73-75 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Finegold. Claims 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Finegold in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,645,201 to Utley et al. (hereinafter “Utley”). Claims 22 an 49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Finegold in view of

U.S. Patent No. 4,542,020 to Jackson et al. "Jackson"). Claims 26, 28, 29, 53, 55 and 56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Finegold in view of U.S. Patent No. 1,767,785 to De Shushko (hereinafter "De Shushko").

Claims 13, 14, 16, 17, 22, 24-26, 28-31, 49, 51-53, 55-57, 59, 60 and 73-75 depend from either claim 1 or claim 33 and therefore include all the features of claim 1 or claim 33. Accordingly, these claims are patentable over the cited references at least for the same reasons as discussed above with regard to the patentability of claims 1 and 33.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-6, 9-12, 27, 35-39, 41-43 and 54 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and was otherwise found to be allowable by the Examiner. These claims depend from either claim 1 or claim 33 and therefore include all the features of claim 1 or claim 33. Accordingly, these claims are patentable over the cited references at least for the same reasons as discussed above with regard to the patentability of claims 1 and 33.

The claims of the application are believed to be in condition for allowance. An early action toward that end is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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The Random House College Dictionary

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THE UNABRIDGED EDITION

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aromatize

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arrogant

n. *Chem.* the conversion of aliphatic or alicyclic compounds to aromatic hydrocarbons. Also, *esp. Brit.*, **a-ro'ma-ti-sa-tion**. [<< ML *aromatisatio* (s. of *aromaticus*)]

a-ro-ma-tize (ə rō'mē tīz'), *v.t.* -tized, -tiz-ing. to make aromatic or fragrant. Also, *esp. Brit.*, **aromatise**. [late ME < LL *aromatisare* < Gk *aromatein* to spice. See AROMA, -IZE] —**a-ro'ma-tiz'er, n.**

A-ron Ko-desh (ə rōn' kō'desh), *Hebrew*. See **Holy Ark**.

A-roos-took (ə rōōs' tōōk, -tik), *n.* a river flowing NE from N Maine to the St. John River. 140 mi. long.

a-round (ə round'), *v.t.* *pt.* of *arise*.

a-round (ə round'), *adv.* 1. in a circle, ring, or the like; so as to surround: *The crowd gathered around*. 2. on all sides: *His land is fenced all around*. 3. in all directions from a center or point of reference: *He owns the land for miles around*. 4. in a region about a place: *all the country around*. 5. in circumference: *The tree was 40 inches around*. 6. in a circular or rounded course: to *fly around and around*. 7. through a sequence or series, as of places or persons: to *show someone around*. 8. through a recurring period, as of time, esp. to the present or a particular time: *when spring rolls around again*. 9. by a circuitous or roundabout course: *The driveway to the house goes around by the stables*. 10. with a rotating course or movement: *The wheels turned around*. 11. in or to another or opposite direction, course, opinion, etc.: *Sit still and don't look around*. After our arguments, she finally came around. 12. back into consciousness: *The smelling salts brought her around*. 13. *Chiefly U.S.* in circulation, action, etc.; about: *When will she be up and around?* 14. *U.S. Informal.* somewhere about or near; nearby: *I'll be around if you need me*. 15. to a specific place: *He came around to see me*. 16. have been around. *Informal.* to have had much worldly experience; be sophisticated or experienced. —*prep.* 17. about; on all sides; encircling; encompassing: *a halo around his head*. 18. so as to encircle, surround, or envelop: to *tie paper around a package*. 19. on the edge, border, or outer part of: *a skirt with braid around the bottom*. 20. from place to place in; about: to *get around town*. 21. in all or various directions from: to *look around one*. 22. in the vicinity of; within the area that surrounds: *the country around Boston*. 23. approximately; about: *around five o'clock*. 24. here and there in: *There are mailboxes all around the city*. 25. somewhere in or near: to *stay around the house*. 26. to all or various parts of: to *wander around the country*. 27. so as to make a circuit about or partial circuit to the other side of: to *row around the lake*. 28. beyond the turn of, or reached by making a partial circuit about: *the church around the corner*. 29. so as to revolve or rotate about a center or axis: *the earth's motion around its axis*. 30. personally close to: *Only the few men around the dictator understood his motives*.

a-rouse (ə rōōz'), *v.* aroused, **a-rou-sing**. —*v.t.* 1. to stir to action; awaken: to *arouse one from sleep*. 2. to provoke; excite: to *arouse anger*. —*v.t.* 3. to awake or become aroused. [<< A- + *ROUSE*], modeled on *ARISE*] —**a-rou-sable, adj.** —**a-rou's/al, n.** —**a-rou's/ex, n.** —*Syn.* 1. *animate; inspire*. 2. *incite*. —*Ant.* 1. calm. **Arp** (ärp), *n.* Hans (hāns) or Jean (zhān), 1888-1966, French painter and sculptor.

Ar-pád (är'pād), *n.* died A.D. 907, Hungarian national hero.

ar-peggio (är'pej'ō, -pej'ō), *n., pl.* -gi-os. *Music.* 1. the sounding of the notes of a chord in rapid succession instead of simultaneously. 2. a chord thus sounded. [<< It: lit., a harping = *arpeggiare*] (to) play on the harp (< Gmc; cf. OE *hearpigian* to harp) + -o-n. suffix] —**ar-peggiated** (är'pej'ēt'ēd), *adj.* —**ar-pegg'gi-ed', adj.**

ar-pen-t (är'pēnt), *n.* *AR-pān'*, *n.* pl. -pents (*pēnts*; Fr. -pān'), *n.* pl. -pents (*pēnts*; Fr. -pān'), *n.* pl. -pents (*pēnts*; Fr. -pān'), an old French unit of area equal to about one acre. [<< MF < LL *arpentis* half-acre < Gaulish; akin to MIt *airēnn* unit of area]

arque-bus (är'kē bōs), *n., pl.* -bus-es. harquebus.

arr. 1. arranged. 2. arrangement. 3. arrival. 4. arrive.

arrack (är'æk), *n.* any of various spirituous liquors distilled in the East and Middle East from the fermented sap of toddy palms, or from fermented molasses, rice, or other materials. Also, *arak*. [<< Ar 'arāq sweat, juice, liquor]

arraign (är'ān'), *v.t.* 1. *Law.* to call or bring before a court to answer to an indictment. 2. to accuse or charge in general; criticize adversely; censure. [<< ME *arainen*) < AF *arainen* (r), OF *araisner* = a- + *raisner* < VL **ratōnare* to talk, reason; see RATIO] —**ar-aign'er, n.**

ar-aign-ment (är'ān'mēnt), *n.* 1. *Law.* the act of arraigning. 2. the state of being arraigned. [late ME *araignement* < MF *araisnement*]

Arran (är'ān, är'ān), *n.* an island in SW Scotland, in the Firth of Clyde. 4300 (est. 1958); 166 sq. mi.

ar-range (är'ān'), *v.* -ranged, -rang-ing. —*v.t.* 1. to place in proper, desired, or convenient order. 2. to come to an agreement or understanding regarding. 3. to prepare, plan, or schedule: to *arrange meeting*. 4. *Music.* to adapt (a composition) for a particular style of performance by voices or instruments. —*v.t.* 5. to make preparations: They arranged for a concert on Wednesday. 6. to make a settlement; come to an agreement (usually fol. by *for*): to *arrange with the grocer for regular deliveries*. [<< ME *araynge(r)* = a- + *range(r)* to RANGE] —**ar-range'a-ble, adj.** —**ar-rang'er, n.** —*Syn.* 1. array. 2. settle; establish. **ar-range-ment** (är'ān'mēnt), *n.* 1. the act of arranging. 2. the state of being arranged. 3. the manner in which things are arranged. 4. a final settlement; adjustment by agreement. 5. Usually, **arrangements**, preparatory measures; preparations: *They made arrangements for an early departure*. 6. something arranged in a particular way: *a floral arrangement*. 7. *Music.* the adaptation of a composition to voices or instruments, or to a new purpose. [<< F]

ar-rant (är'ānt), *adj.* 1. downright; thorough; unmitigated: an arrant fool. *Obs.* wandering; errant. [*var. of BRANT*] —**ar'rant-ly, adv.**

ar-able, *adj.* *Brit.* 1. the property of pounds. *2. harm.* a nearly id contains aml aromatic oils: 1. by inhalation. Also, *ar'omat-*

is-ing, *n.* 1. the property of pounds. *2. harm.* a nearly id contains aml aromatic oils: 1. by inhalation. Also, *ar'omat-*

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act, able, dare, *Brit.* ebb, equal, if, ice, hot, over, order, oil, sing, shoe; thin; that; *th* as in measure; *th* as in button (but'ən); fire' (fir'). See the full key inside the front cover.

ar-ras (är'ās), *n.* 1. a rich tapestry. 2. a tapestry weave. 3. a wall hanging, as a tapestry or similar object. [named after ARRAS] —**ar'ras-ed, adj.**

Ar-ras (är'ās; Fr. är'ās'), *n.* a city in N France: battles in World War I. 45,643 (1962).

ar-ray (ə rā'), *v.t.* 1. to place in proper or desired order, as troops for battle. 2. to clothe, esp. with ornamental attire. —*n.* 3. order, as of troops drawn up for battle. 4. a military force, esp. a body of troops. 5. a large and impressive grouping or organization: *an array of facts*. 6. a regular order or arrangement: *an array of figures*. 7. attire; dress: *in fine array*. 8. *Math. Statistics.* an arrangement of a series of terms in some geometric pattern, as in a matrix. [<< ME *arraye(n)* < AF *araye(r)*, OF *are(y)e(r)* < Gmc; cf. OE *arādān* to prepare = a- + *ādān* ready] —*Syn.* 1. arrange, dispose. 2. attire; adorn. 3. disposition, arrangement. 7. raiment.

ar-ray-al (ə rā'ēl), *n.* 1. act of arraying. 2. something that is arrayed.

ar-rear (ə rēr'), *n.* 1. Usually, **arrears**, the state of being behind or late, esp. in the fulfillment of a promise, obligation, or the like. 2. Often, **arrears**, something that is behind in being paid. 3. in or into **arrears**, behind in payment of a debt. Also, *in arrear*. [n. use of *arrear* (adv., now obs.), ME *are* behind. < MF < L *ad retrād*. See AD-, RETRO-1]

ar-rear-age (ə rēr'ēj), *n.* 1. the state or condition of being in arrears. 2. Often, **arrearages**, an amount or amounts overdue. 3. *Archaic.* something kept in reserve. [<< ME *areverage* < OF]

ar-rest (ə rest'), *v.t.* 1. to seize (a person) by legal authority or warrant. 2. to attract and hold: *to arrest the attention*. 3. to check the course of; stop or slow down: *to arrest progress*. —*n.* 4. the act of taking a person into legal custody, as by officers of the law. 5. the state of being taken into legal custody (sometimes prec. by *under*). 6. any act of taking by force. 7. the act of stopping or slowing. 8. the state of being stopped or slowed. [<< ME *arreste(n)* < MF *arreste(r)* = a- + *rest* to REST; ME *arreste(n)* (n.) < OF (v.)] —**ar-rest'a-ble, adj.** —**ar-rest'er, n.** —**ar-rest'ment, n.** —*Syn.* 1. apprehend. 2. secure, occupy. 3. stay. See stop. 4. detention, apprehension. 7. stoppage, stay, check. —*Ant.* 1-4. release.

ar-rest-ing (ə rest'ing), *adj.* 1. attracting or capable of attracting attention, interest, or the like: *an arresting smile*. 2. making or having made an arrest: *the arresting officer*.

ar-rest'ing-ly, adv.

ar-re-stive (ə rest'iv), *adj.* tending to arrest or take hold of the attention, interest, etc.

ar-rgt. arrangement.

Ar-rhe-ni-us (är'ān'ē öös'), *n.* Svan-te August (svān'tē ou'gōst), 1859-1927, Swedish physicist and chemist: Nobel prize for chemistry 1903.

ar-rhyth-mia (är'ith'ē mēē), *n.* *Pathol.* any disturbance in the rhythm of the heartbeat. Also, **arrhythmia**. *Gk arrhythmia.* See *ARRHYTHM*, -ia. —**ar-rhyth'mic, ar-rhyth'mi-cal, adj.** —**ar-rhyth'mi-cal-ly, adv.**

ar-ri-ére-ban (är'ērē bān'), *Fr.* a *ryer bān'*; *n.* pl. -bans (-bān'); *Fr.* -bān'). 1. a group of vassals who owed military service, esp. to French kings. 2. the message calling on this group for duty. [<< F alter. of OF (h)arban < ML (h)arribanus < Gmc; cf. OHG *hart* army, *ban* ²]

ar-riére-pen-sée (är'ērē pān'sē), *n., pl.* -pen-sées (-pān-sē'). French. a mental reservation; hidden motive. [*lit.* behind thought]

Ar-Rimāl (är'ē rī māl'). See *Rub' al Khali*.

ar-ri's (är'ēs), *n.* *Archit.* 1. a sharp ridge, as between adjoining channels of a Doric column. 2. the line, ridge, or hip formed by the meeting of two surfaces at an exterior angle. [<< MF *arreste*]

ar-ri-val (är'ē vāl'), *n.* 1. the act or an instance of arriving: *His arrival was delayed by traffic*. 2. the attainment of any object or condition: *arrival at a conclusion*. 3. the person or thing that arrives or has arrived: *First arrivals will be the first seated*. [*ARRIVE* + -AL'; *r.* ME *arriuale* < MF]

ar-ri've (är'iv'), *v.* -rived, -riv-ing. —*v.t.* 1. to come to a certain point in the course of travel; reach one's destination: *He finally arrived in Rome*. 2. to come to be present: *The time has arrived*. 3. to attain a position of success in the world. 4. to reach or attain any conclusion; final state, or the like: *to arrive at an agreement*. 5. *Archaic.* to happen: *It arrived that the master had already departed*. 6. *Obs.* to come to shore. —*v.t.* 7. *Obs.* to reach; come to. [<< ME *ar(r)ive(n)* < OF *ar(r)ive(r)* < VL **arrip̄ēre* to come to land = L *ad rip̄am* to the riverbank + -ē thematic vowel + -re inf. suffix] —**ar-ri've'er, n.**

—Syn. 1. *ARRIVE, COME* both mean to reach a stopping place. *ARRIVE* directs the attention to the final point of an activity or state: *The train arrived at noon*. *COME* rarely refers to the actual moment of arrival but refers instead to the progress toward it.

ar-ri've-der-cl (är'ē vē der'chē), *interj.* *Italian.* until we see each other again. Also, *a rivederci*.

ar-ri-viste (är'ē vēst'), *Fr.* är'ē vēst'), *n., pl.* -vistes (-vēst'); *Fr.* -vēst'). a person who has recently acquired status, wealth, or success by questionable or unscrupulous means. [<< F; see *ARRIVE, -IST*]

ar-ro-ba (är'ō'bā; Sp., Port. är'ō bā'), *n., pl.* -bas (-bāz; Sp., Port. -bās). 1. a Spanish and Portuguese unit of weight of varying value, equal to 25.37 pounds avoirdupois in Mexico and to 32.38 pounds avoirdupois in Brazil. 2. a unit of liquid measure of varying value, used esp. in Spain and commonly equal (when used for wine) to 4.26 U.S. gallons. [<< Sp. < Ar al rub' the fourth part, i.e., a quarter of the *qūntūr*; see *QUINTAL*]

ar-ro-gance (är'ō gāns), *n.* 1. a feeling of superiority or an offensive exhibition of it. 2. presumptuous or overbearing conduct, statements, etc., resulting from such a feeling. Also, **ar-ro-gan-cy**. [<< ME < MF < L *arrogantia* presumption —*Ant.* 1. humility.

ar-ro-gant (är'ō gent'), *adj.* 1. making unwarrantable claims or pretensions to superior importance or rights. 2. *Obs.* *bōob; dōōz; out; up; firge; e = a as in alone; chīf; esp. esp. Brit., -ti-*. See the full key inside the front cover.